Clybourn Family

clybourn Family

CLYBOURN OR (CLEBURN) FAMILY

Hialeah, Florida
Box 291 Route 1

Miss Bonnie Farwell
1107 S. Center Street
Terre Haute, Indiana

My dear Miss Farwell:

I am compiling historical data on Archibald Clyburn of Chicago and his brother Henely Clyburn of Westville, Indiana. I am also trying to locate the burial place of their father and mother Jonas Clybourn and Elizabeth (McKenzie) Clark Clyburn. I have been searching on this subject for nealy five years and need not tell you how difficult it is.

I am sure you are familiar with the history of Elizabeth's capture by the Indians as it is referred to in several Indiana histories of La Porte County which also refer to Jonas as having served in the Revolution. However I have not been able up to the present time to secure documentary proof on that, only family tradition tho I have his record of service in the war of 1812. Learning the D.A.R. in Indiana have been compiling a list of the Revolutionary soldiers buried in the state I would like to know if his name is listed amongst them.

The father, brother and two uncles of Elizabeth served in the Revolution. Indeed her father saw, a great deal of military service. Was in the Culpepper Militia in 1756 and fought at the battle of Point Pleasant.

I am enclosing some statements I have received and would appreciate your views on same as I am only a novice in this line but I ardently desire to locate these two graves if such a thing is possible. Any suggestions or data will be greatly appreciated.

Thanking you

Mrs. C.E. McGlenn

Chicago Times Feb. 18, 1877

Remmiscences of Mrs. Archibald Clybourn

It is a remarkable circumstance that Mrs. Clybourn has made, but one change since and that was as early as 1835. Archy and his wife lived with the old people until 1835.

Supplemental Notes: Fergus Directory

Benjamin Hall a relative stated that Jonas Clybourn died at Westville, Indiana July 24, 1842.

Elvira M. Oakes
1212 Clay Street
La Porte, Ind.

Oct. 11, 1938

As to Jonas and Elizabeth (McKenzie) Clyburn being buried in La Porte County I so far have found no definite information. Union Chapel Cemetery where several others of the family are buried. Mrs. Clara (Benedict) Barnet, a daughter of Miriam Benedict is now in La Porte and I asked her about this. She said she had never heard her father say. Henley's parents died here; that she always thought they lived with the brother Archibald in Chicago and died there.

University Heights Jr. High
Riverside, California

Pearl Clybourn - Vice Principal

Grand daughter of Henley Clyburn through second marriage of his son Joseph Henly Clyburn.

I thought Jonas was buried in the old Eahart cemetery where Miriam Benedict and Sara Clybourn were buried. P.S. It seems to me that aunt Minta told me that Elizabeth returned to live with Margaret and died in Virginia.

W.L. Dodd

Westville Ind. Box 19

Henly Clybourn's first wife was buried southwest of Westville, which is now a field and also his mother and his father is buried in the same place. I know the spot and the markers of the graves was taken up and buired in the fence corner and the graves are being farmed over.

Pretty contradictory evidence isn't it. When living in Chicago I went to Westville and with Mr. Dodd we drove to this ground he spoke of. He dug around for a little while where he thought the stones were, but located nothing of course one couldn't in such a brief time. As he explained it this little piece of ground was at one time a private cemetery. The bodies later being removed to I presume the Union Chapel cemetery Miss Oakes writes of. Sara Benedict is buried here next to her mother Miriam, a daughter of a Revolutionary soldier. He claims the old people's graves were not disturbed and later when the land was farmed over the tombstones were taken up and buried.

Is there any way I could trace this private cemetery? Would there be any record at such an early date of the transfer to the other cemetery. I presume not. The old gravestones perhaps was made by an early Indiana marble cutter. Would there be any firm today who may have a record. The letter from Mr. Dodd came in reply to my letter of inquiry to the pastor of the Westville M.E. Church.

The family manuscript that I had the loan of from a descendent of Henley Clybourn's son William mentions the Union Chapel M.E. Church. Do you know where the records would be, if there is any? How thoughtless descendents burn up valued historical documents viewing them as old papers to get rid of. The descendents at Westville are not greatly handicapped in my enforced stay here, but hope to return this summer. I am positive that Jonas and Elizabeth are not buried in Chicago. The Clybournes went to Milwaukee in 1835 and Wisconsin was then in a primitive pioneer stage. No place for Elizabeth who was not well. What could be more logical than to have the old people stay with their younger son. Neither do I think that Elizabeth went to live with her sister Margaret. Tho she may have visited. I am checking this up also. Of course Mr. Dodds statement seems the best, but there is no proof and mumerous are faulty. Every one has a different story. I thought the other data might interest you as it looked likely that Benjamin Turman, the Revolutionary soldier was buried somewhere in Sullivan County, Indiana. It has mistakes, but on the whole it is a valued document in the possession of Henry R. Denton Garland, Kansas. I apologize for this lengthy letter, but I would like to learn everything I can. Miss Oakes thought Jonas would not be old enough to serve in the Revolution, but Roosevelt in his "Winning of the West states that boys at twelve served in the Forts." I know that Elizabeth's brother Isaac enlisted at fourteen. Elizabeth was born in 1770 and was thirty when she married Jonas. I am inclined to believe it was a second marriage for Jonas also as he is listed as living near Richmond at an earlier date. I hope to hear from you and assure you that any suggestions will be greatly appreciated

Thanking you sincerely,
Mrs. C.E. McGlenn